

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/006,544

Applicant(s)

WONG ET AL.

Examiner

Nitin Patel

Art Unit

2673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nagasaki et al., (U.S. Patent No. 5,936,619).

As per claims 1,16 Nagasaki shows an electronic device (element 101 I fig.1 and In fig.15 a-d): a user interface feature configurable to have a selected orientation about at least a first axis (in fig.21a); a detection mechanism to detect orientation about the electronic device (In fig.19 and I col.4 lines 60-67) and one or more components configured to select the orientation of the user interface based on the detected orientation information (In fig.4 e-h) and to configure the user interface feature according to the selected orientation wherein the selected orientation is based on at least first reference point on the axis (In fig.21 c-d).

As per claims 2,3,4,17 Nagasaki shows user interface is symmetrically disposed about a first and second axis wherein the selected orientation defines a first reference indication on the first axis and a second reference indication on a second axis (In fig.2

picture orientation control lines) and one or more components to control top down direction (In fig.6 and in col.5 lines 21-47).

As per claims 5-10,18,19 Nagasaki shows set of buttons disposed symmetrically about the axis and one or more components include a processor (element 106 In fig.1) that select the orientation of the set of buttons by specifying a reference indication that defines a position of each buttons relative to the axis (In fig.4 and I col.4 lines 18-35) and includes a one or more components includes a processor (In fig.1 element 106) and a display driver (element 104 In fig.1 display controller as a driver) and a plurality of sensor area that detect user contact(In col.3 lines element 101 a pressure sensing type tablet) by sensing a plurality of sensors to determine the orientation of a screen that actuatable so that one or more sensor fro select portion of the plurality of sensors to define the orientation information to detect first and second actuatable surface(In fig.4 a-d).

As per claims 11-15 Nagasaki shows a user selected to configure the feature for left or right handed actuatable surface (In fig.21 a-b a user could use as a right or left input device with different choices) and has a different sensor area to select orientation to determine a position on the input device and detected information only of the electronic device id first determined to not have been active use for a set duration of time (In Fig.29 element 202).

As per claims 20,21, Nagasaki shows a plurality of possible detectable user contacts with device includes first button pres from a set of two or more possible buttons presses (In Fig.7 possible of four control signals to detect orientation of the screen).

As per claims 22-24, Nagasaki shows detecting grip configuration of a user from one or more sensor on a housing (In col.4 lines 39-50) and features includes a top down vertical orientation for a display (In Fig.4 e-h).

As per claims 25-28 Nagasaki shows aright left horizontal orientation and identifying the orientation of mechanism on a display of the device (In fig.4 e-h) and which selecting a position of hand writing input area in the display (In col.5 lines 20-48).

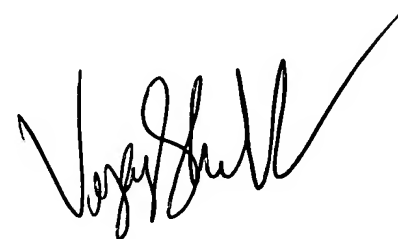
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nitin Patel whose telephone number is 703-308-7024. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin H Shalwala can be reached on 703-305-4938. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-9618.

NP
October 31, 2003.



**VIJAY SHANKAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER**